

# Ding

Department of Philosophy  
University of Arizona  
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## EDUCATION

Ph.D. in Philosophy, University of Arizona, May 2025 (expected)

Dissertation: *On Our Own Terms: Equality and the Social Meaning of Bodies*

Advisors: Thomas Christiano and Jason Turner (co-chairs), Suzanne Dovi (political theory), and Sara Bernstein (external)

B.A. in Philosophy, *summa cum laude*, The Ohio State University, 2019

## SPECIALIZATIONS

Feminist & Trans Philosophy; Political & Social Philosophy; Philosophy of Law

## COMPETENCIES

Ethics; Metaphysics; Logic

## PUBLIC WRITING

[“Putting Gender Back into Transgender Equality: On \*Iglesias v. Federal Bureau of Prisons\*,”](#)  
*APA Blog*, September 2023 (solicited for the Law and Philosophy Series)

## TALKS

(\* = invited)

“Taking Gender Seriously: Transgender Equality as Gender Equality”

Central APA, New Orleans, LA, February 2024

“‘Medical Diagnosis, Not Sex or Gender Identity’: Transgender Equality and the Neutral Application Problem”

Pacific APA, Portland, OR, March 2024

UCLA Workshop on Law, Ethics, and Political Theory, November 2023 – *prize for best graduate or JD student submission*

“On Our Own Terms: Trans Women Crafting the Meaning of ‘Woman’”

Seminar on Current Debates in Feminist Philosophy, University of Guelph, Canada, February 2024 (pre-read class visit; virtual)\*

USC-UCLA Graduate Conference, April 2023

“Pregnant Persons as a Gender Category: A Trans Feminist Analysis of Pregnancy Discrimination”

Harvard-MIT Graduate Conference, April 2023

Central APA, Denver, CO, February 2023

“Two Senses in Which Freedom Might (Not) Require Alternative Possibilities”

Workshop on Free Will and Agency, Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México, May 2020 (canceled due to COVID-19)

COMMENTS	<p>Lauren Perry's "A Victim by Any Other Name? A Speech Act Analysis of Victim-Blaming," 4th Arizona Feminist Philosophy Graduate Conference, April 2023</p> <p>Joan O'Bryan's "Uncovering an Idealist Ontology of Patriarchy: Patriarchy as a System of Meaning in Beauvoir, Butler, and MacKinnon," 3rd Arizona Feminist Philosophy Graduate Conference, March 2022</p> <p>Anastasiia Grigoreva's "Nonbinary Russians: The Excluded by Robin Dembroff's Account of Genderqueer," 2nd Arizona Feminist Philosophy Graduate Conference, May 2021 (virtual)</p> <p>Dee Payton's "Ameliorative Projects in the Philosophy of Gender," 1st Arizona Feminist Philosophy Graduate Conference, February 2020</p>
SELECTED AWARDS	<p>Prize for the best graduate or JD student submission to the Workshop on Law, Ethics, and Political Theory, UCLA School of Law, November 2023 (only student paper selected for presentation from nearly 100 submissions from scholars of all career stages)</p> <p><i>Ad Hoc</i> Award in recognition of mentorship of the undergraduate ethics bowl team, Department of Philosophy, University of Arizona, May 2023</p> <p>Co-Recipient, Emil R. Riesen and Austin H. Riesen Prize for the best essay by a graduate student, Department of Philosophy, University of Arizona, May 2020</p> <p>William E. Bingham Award for the best undergraduate paper in philosophy, Department of Philosophy, The Ohio State University, April 2017</p>
GRANTS	<p>Travel Support Fund, College of Social &amp; Behavioral Sciences, University of Arizona, October 2023 (selective grant of \$500 for the ethics bowl team's travel expenses)</p> <p>Travel Grant, Graduate &amp; Professional Student Council, University of Arizona, February 2023 (selective grant of \$1,000 for conference travel)</p>
TEACHING	<p><i>Instructor of Record</i></p> <p>Feminist Philosophy (Spring 2024, 20 students; Spring 2023, 36 students)</p> <p>Law and Morality (Winter 2023, 41 students; Summer 2023, 23 students; Summer 2021, 38 &amp; 14 students; Summer 2020, 13 students; all asynchronous online)</p> <p>Logic in Law (Fall 2022, 14 students; Spring 2022, 10 students)</p> <p>Medical Ethics (Fall 2021, 54 students)</p> <p><i>Teaching Assistant</i></p> <p>Contemporary Moral Problems (Michael McKenna, Fall 2023, 94 students, full teaching responsibility for guest module on the ethics and metaphysics of sexism)</p> <p>Personal Morality (Carolina Sartorio, Spring 2021, 81 students)</p> <p>Freedom, Equality, and Authority (Tom Christiano, Fall 2020, 71 students)</p> <p>Mind, Matter, and God (Chris Maloney, Fall 2019, 153 students)</p>

*New Course Development*

Sex, Gender, and Love: An Introduction to Social Philosophy (developed and approved for UA's new General Education curriculum as an Exploring Perspectives-Humanist course with a Diversity & Equity attribute)

*Undergraduate Honors Contracts Advised*

Morrigan Malloy (Feminist Philosophy, Spring 2023, the ethics of abortion)

Catie Holt (Medical Ethics, Fall 2021, patient autonomy)

Lauren Skyler (Medical Ethics, Fall 2021, the ethics of organ cloning)

**SERVICE**

*Departmental*

University of Arizona Ethics Bowl Team, Co-Coach, Fall 2019–Fall 2021; Coach, Fall 2022–

Ranked top three for the Spirit of Ethics Bowl Award, Rocky Mountain Regional Ethics Bowl, November 2023

Panelist for session on teaching, Graduate Student Orientation, August 2023

General Education Refresh Committee, Fall 2022–Spring 2023

Organizer, Trans Feminism Reading Group, Summer 2022–Fall 2022

Guest Speaker, Undergraduate Philosophy Club, March 2022

Organizer, Feminist Philosophy Reading Group, Spring 2020–Summer 2021

*Professional*

Co-Organizer, Arizona Feminist Philosophy Graduate Conference, Fall 2019–

*Referee*

*Politics, Philosophy & Economics*; Arizona Feminist Philosophy Graduate Conference (19 papers); UA Graduate & Professional Student Council (16 grants)

**GRADUATE**

**COURSEWORK**

(\* = audited; † =  
independent study)

*Value Theory*

The Rationality and Morality of Political Participation (Tom Christiano)\*

Iris Marion Young's *Justice and the Politics of Difference* (Tom Christiano)†

The Law and Philosophy of Contracts (Tom Christiano & Simone Sepe)

Philosophical Foundations of Private Law (Tom Christiano & Simone Sepe)

Moral Phenomenology (Mark Timmons & Terry Horgan)

Modeling Political Philosophy (Jerry Gaus)

Sentimentalism in Ethics (Justin D'Arms, Ohio State)

*Metaphysics, Epistemology, and Language*

Topics in Metaphysics: Ontology, Time, and Modality (Jason Turner)\*

Metasemantics (Jason Turner)

- Grounding Agency and Responsibility (Carolina Sartorio & Michael McKenna)
- Recent Topics in Philosophical Methodology: Experimental Philosophy, Epistemic Diversity, and Conceptual Engineering (Jonathan Weinberg)
- Knowledge and Skepticism (Juan Comesaña)
- Defeaters in Epistemology (Juan Comesaña)
- Theories of Action and Free Will (Carolina Sartorio & Michael McKenna)

*History*

- Kant's Conception of Transcendental Critique (Houston Smit)
- Descartes and Leibniz (Houston Smit)
- Kant's *Critique of Pure Reason* (Lisa Shabel, Ohio State)

*Logic*

- Logical Consequence (Jason Turner)
- Metatheory of Classical and Non-Classical First-Order Logics (Neil Tennant, Ohio State)

READING  
GROUPS

*Faculty-Led*

- Niko Kolodny's *The Pecking Order: Social Hierarchy as a Philosophical Problem* (Tom Christiano, Stefan Sciaraffa & Steve Wall)
- Colin Bird's *Human Dignity and Political Criticism* (Julia Annas, Tom Christiano & Stefan Sciaraffa)
- Margaret Gilbert's *Rights and Demands: A Foundational Inquiry* (Julia Annas, Tom Christiano & Stefan Sciaraffa)
- Sophia Moreau's *Faces of Inequality: A Theory of Wrongful Discrimination* (Tom Christiano & Stefan Sciaraffa)
- Kristi Olson's *The Solidarity Solution: Principles for a Fair Income Distribution* (Tom Christiano)
- Martha Nussbaum's *Women and Human Development: The Capabilities Approach* (Tom Christiano)
- Amartya Sen's *Inequality Reexamined* (Tom Christiano)
- Carolina Sartorio's *Causation and Free Will* (Carolina Sartorio)
- Relational Egalitarianism (Tom Christiano)

*Students-Led*

- Julia Serano's *Sexed Up: How Society Sexualizes Us, and How We Can Fight Back*
- Talia Mae Bettcher
- Relational Autonomy
- Miranda Fricker's *Epistemic Injustice: Power and the Ethics of Knowing*
- Race and Racial Identity

Eva Feder Kittay's *Learning from My Daughter: The Value and Care of Disabled Minds*  
Elizabeth Barnes's *The Minority Body: A Theory of Disability*

*Last updated: January 14, 2024*